GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:219
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2017
Direct Benefit Transfer in Kerosene
Raut Shri Vinayak Bhaurao;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched the Direct Benefit Transfer in Kerosene (DBTK) in 39 districts with effect from 1st April, 2016 and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether there is any proposal to implement DBTK in all districts across the country, and if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise;
(c) the details of the cases of black marketing/diversion, smuggling, misuse of subsidy and kerosene under PDS reported from various States in the recent past along with action taken by the Government against the offenders for each of these offences separately and to provide subsidised kerosene to targeted beneficiaries, State/UT-wise;
(d) whether the quota of kerosene has reportedly lapsed on account of non-lifting by some States, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
(e) whether the Government has received requests from various States for restoration of lapsed quota of kerosene and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 219 BY SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE & SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT TO BE ANSWERED ON 31st JULY, 2017 REGARDING "DIRECT BENEFIT TRANSFER IN KEROSENE ". (a) & (b) The Direct Benefit Transfer in PDS Kerosene (DBTK) Scheme, 2016 has been implemented with effect from 01.04.2016. Jharkhand has become the first State in the country to implement DBTK in all the 24 districts of the State. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is regularly following up with the States/Union Territories (UTs) and has requested them to join DBTK Scheme. The States of Karnataka, Haryana, Telangana and Nagaland have responded favourably by undertaking voluntary cut in their PDS SKO allocation and applicable cash incentive is released from time to time depending on the receipt of proposals from the State Government. The following States/UTs have become Kerosene free − (i) Haryana, (ii) Punjab, (iii) Chandigarh, (iv) Daman & Diu, (v) Delhi (c): In order to check the black marketing/ diversion of PDS kerosene, the Central Government have made provisions in the Kerosene (Restriction on Use and Fixation of Ceiling Price) Order, 1993, issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 which stipulates that dealers have to sell PDS Kerosene at a price fixed by the Government or OMCs and have to prominently display stock-cum-price board at the place of business including the place of store at a conspicuous place. Under this Control Order, State Governments are empowered to take action against those indulging in black-marketing and other irregularities. PDS Kerosene supplies to Kerosene dealers are done on Ex-MI (Marketing Installation) basis by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). Further distribution of PDS kerosene within the State to the ration card holders through ration shops/retailers is controlled and monitored by the State Government. The State Civil Supplies Authorities carry out inspection at Kerosene dealers to ensure that the product is delivered through the fair price shops to the intended beneficiaries. Field Officers of OMCs inspect the Kerosene Dealerships and check for irregularities like non-observance of Government/OMCs regulations, over charging, unauthorized purchase and stock variation. In case of any irregularities, action is taken as per the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).
OMCs have a web portal which enables public access to the movement of PDS Kerosene tank trucks. It provides details of the tank truck movement carrying PDS Kerosene from their Dispatch Units/Depots/ Installations to the various dealers along with their names, invoice number, quantity of product, time of dispatch, tank truck number, etc. on the websites on real time basis. Public Sector OMCs have reported that based on the inspections conducted by them and reports received from respective District/State Authorities, 40 cases of irregularities like adulteration, black marketing, diversion and irregularities in distribution of PDS kerosene were detected during the last two years and current year (April-June, 2017). State/UT-wise details of cases of irregularities detected and action taken thereon during said period are annexed as Annexure- I. (d): State-wise details of the quota lapsed during 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 (upto 1st Quarter) are given in Annexure-II. (e): Requests for extension of time for restoration of lapsed SKO quota received from the States/UTs from time to time, are examined, and extension of time for lifting is granted on the merits of the case. During the the year 2016-17, extension of time to uplift lapsed quota was granted by this Ministry to the State of Jammu and Kashmir and Mainpur on account of bad wheather conditions, road closure and law and order situation in these States.
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